GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

1904

(Sanitary)

File No. 45 of 03

Serial Nos.

Papers Filed.

P. 13 E

Month December 1904.

SUBJECT.

The Disinfection Process suggested by the Senior Surgeon in his inspection notes of the Mysore City.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.	LATER REFERENCES

G.R.S. 13]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Ⓟ Pol: No. 941/2. F 45 of 03 Jail.

Letter No. 2299 Ⓟ dt 8.12.02 from the Pol. Asstt to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore.

Requests particulars re. the disinfection process suggested by the Sen. Surgn. in his inspection rots of the Mysore City.

Ordered to be filed.

Bowring

N. B.—Should routine notes be written on small Slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

MGCPB—50,000—22-9-04

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Rec'd 8/12/02
5 Pkt

No. 2299
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From

R. C. H. MOSS. KING, Esq., I. C. S.,
FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

Pol: 941 1/2

To

The Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 8th December 1902

Sir,

I am directed to invite a reference to pages XLIII-L, Part I of the proceedings of the Government of Mysore for the month of September 1902, copies of which were forwarded with Mr.Nanjundayya's letter, No.8901-Pol. 193, dated the 25th November 1902.

2. These pages deal with the Darbar's proceedings in the Local Boards Plague Branch, in which they communicate copies of notes of inspection of the Mysore City in the form of memoranda by the second Councillor and the Senior Surgeon and Sanitary Commissioner, to the Deputy Commissioner of the Mysore district for "information and careful and earnest action" by himself and by his subordinate officers. The Resident finds it difficult to reconcile

x No.4040 L.B P.190 dated 17th September 902.

the manner in which these memoranda were disposed of, with the system of administration sanctioned for Mysore. Measures of Plague policy are clearly comprised within the schedule of subjects for submission to His Highness the Maharaja, and there appears to be some grounds for believing that this case was not so treated. The course followed of publishing what appears to have been something in the nature of "office notes" with marginal remarks by the Dewan and the Second Councillor appears to be unusual, and may probably lead to inconvenience. So far as Government proceedings are concerned, it is not desirable that the personal opinions of the Dewan and a Councillor, whose official existence in their connection with the Government is merged in that of advisers to His Highness, should be published.

3. Further, it is by no means clear from the proceedings what "careful and earnest action" the Deputy Commissioner and his subordinate officers are expected to take. For instance, the Senior Surgeon recommends compulsory inoculation in certain cases (page XLIV of the volume) while the second Councillor dissents and the Dewan says nothing. Colonel Benson also advises some measure of compulsory evacuation, but this proposal is not

approved either by the second Councillor or the Dewan. A proposal is also put forward for the introduction of the Passport system, and in this matter the Dewan and the second Councillor are not altogether agreed. The foregoing are all important items in Plague administration, and in respect to them, it appears to Colonel Robertson that the attitude of the Deputy Commissioner must necessarily be one of some perplexity as to the views and intentions of his superior officers.

4. Finally, there is the question of disinfection regarding which the Dewan and the second Councillor apparently agree with the Senior Surgeon that it is useless to disinfect chemically unsuitable houses, and that their suitability or otherwise for disinfection should be decided by the officer in charge of Plague operations. Since Colonel Benson's memorandum was written, the Darbar will have received my letter, No.1965 P. dated the 6th October 1902 communicating the instructions of the Government of India on disinfection in rural tracts. The special point raised by the Senior Surgeon has been met in this pronouncement, and the recent experience gained in the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore seems to show that the disinfection of irregularly constructed houses,

with

with mud floors, though necessarily a tedious operation, presents no insuperable difficulty provided the supervision be effective. It will be in the recollection of the Darbar that the late Director General, Indian Medical Service, criticized unfavourably the disinfection arrangements in the Mysore City, and the Resident is induced to believe that the objections urged by the Senior Surgeon and supported by the Dewan and the second Councillor should more appropriately have been directed either towards the agency employed on disinfection, or the method of working rather than towards the efficacy of the process provided it were undertaken in the thorough manner which is indispensable if full advantage is to be secured. If the Government of India, with the experienced advice that is available to them as the result of observation by authorities over a larger area than the Mysore State, are decidedly of opinion that chemical disinfection is a suitable measure in rural tracts, it seems to follow with irresistable force that such disinfection can be made thoroughly effective in a single City with a population of not more than 69000 souls.

vide Mr. Dobbs' letter, No. 3259 P. dated the 28th November 1902. 1960

5. It seems to Colonel Robertson that the matter of disinfection has not received adequate consideration at the hands of the Darbar. When the immediate supervision

of

of disinfection operations is left to subordinates, the work will naturally be carried out in a perfunctory and ineffectual manner; if, on the other hand, officers of a responsible status, such as those now working in the Civil and Military Station, are employed to direct and personally supervise the disinfection of houses, it is more than probable that the results secured may be such as to justify the Senior Surgeon in withdrawing his general condemnation of a process, which, without any distinction of the style of building to be operated upon, is now regarded by many competent authorities as one of the few remaining measures which are valuable in order to arrest the spread of plague. The discretion which it is proposed, without apparently any detailed instructions, to leave to the officer in charge of Plague measures is not only a dangerous innovation, but it ~~makes~~ marks a sudden and it may be an undesirable departure from well established policy, which the Darbar stated in Mr. Ramaya's letter, No.15892-L.B.P.447 dated the 28th May 1901 in reply to an enquiry by the Resident in this matter would not be abandoned or curtailed.

6. In conclusion I am to ask that the Resident may be favoured with the views of His Highness the Maharaja's

Government

Government on the several points raised in this letter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

First Assistant Resident.

RK

To

The First Assistant Resident
in Mysore

Sir,

With reference to your letter No 2299 P dated 8th December '02 regarding the Durbars Proceedings No 4040 C.B. P 190 & 17th September '02 Communicating Certain notes of inspection of the Ellyore City by the 2nd Councillor and the Senior Surgeon and Sanitary Commissioner or by the Deputy Commissioner of Ellyore for information and careful and earnest action by himself and by his Subordinate Officers, I am directed to state that as the observations made in the memoranda of inspection either by the Dewan or by the Councillor contained no change in the plague policy hitherto followed by the Durbar the Case was not regarded as

This draft explains the Reluctance of the Case - As there was no further reference was not sent - It is evident and the so called effective disinfection of the C. of the Sanitary has not improved quite inefficacious These papers may be filed for the present

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IX A.

as a Scheduled subject for submission to His Highness the Maharaja. All notes of inspection may generally be taken to embody only the personal opinions of the inspecting officers, but for obvious reasons, there is an advantage in Communicating them as they stand. In the present Case, the Deputy Commissioner of Mysore and some of his subordinate officers were present when Mr Srinivasengar and Col. Benson inspected the Mysore City and it was deemed desirable to communicate the results of their inspection as they emanated from them, especially as in the remarks added by the Dewan, there was no indication of any immediate new departure from any of the existing plague measures and the remarks were merely intended to give a stimulus to what was already within the Sphere of the Deputy Commissioner and his subordinate officers. On a careful perusal of the memoranda of inspection, it has, I am to state, not been found that they are

are such as to cause any lee-
-plexity to the Deputy Commissioner
in his Course of action.

Taking the Case of inoculation
first, it is quite true that
Col. Benson suggested its being
made Compulsory in Certain
Government institutions, while
the 2nd Councillor dissented. The
The Dewan however instead of
saying nothing, as stated in
para 3 of your letter has agree
-ing with the Councillors added
the remark "I am quite willing
to encourage it (inoculation)
and do all that is necessary
without going to the actual
length of making it Compulsory."
These remarks being in Consonance
with the existing practice it
was considered that they Con-
-tained no direction to the Deputy
Commissioner for any fresh action
out of the prescribed Course.
Similarly with regard to the
measure of Compulsory evacuation
proposed by Col. Benson, it
will be seen that the remarks
of the Councillor and the Dewan
merely repeat what was the
practice hitherto viz, that
evacuation should be en-
-couraged, but not enforced.

Next

Next, as regards the Pano-Port System, it will be observed that the 2nd Councillor was for reserving the Question for future Consideration, while the Dewan was for Considering it immediately for Bangalore. This remark made by the Dewan, did not apply to the Deputy Commissioner of Mysore and was obviously meant for the Consideration of the Councillor and others who had to deal with the question preliminary to its being discussed in Council for submission to H. H. the Maharaja. As a matter of fact such Questions have always been treated as Scheduled ones as may be seen from a reference to notification no 8 Communicated by you in no 8

As regards the insuitability of Chemical disinfection in Certain Cases, I am to observe that the remarks regarding it were made before the pronouncement of the Government of

of India Resolution, Communicated in your letter No 1965 P & 6th October '02, was received, and the Durbar have already in letter no. 9428-441 & 5th December 1902, given their assurance that this method of disinfection will be adopted, wherever possible, and particularly in such infected parts of the Mysore State as adjoin British India. It may be noted however, that the opinion regarding the inefficiency of Chemical disinfection contained in the remarks of the Dewan and the Councillor was not one formed at the time it was expressed, but was one Communicated by the Plague Commissioner in his no: Camp A 2 & 11th October '1899 to the First Asst to the Resident and accepted by the officiating Resident in no 3478 & 27th October 1899. It may also be stated that this same opinion was repeated in the Communication made by the Durbar in no 9248 -LB(P) 1207 & 14th December 1901 in

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in replying to the letter of
the Madras Government re-
-garding the use of Chemicals
for purposes of disinfection.
In the light of these facts,
it would appear therefore,
that the Criticisms Contained
in paras 4 & 5 of your letter
cannot apply to the opinions
of either the Dewan or the
Councillor, which were at the
time they were expressed
in Conformity with the past
declared opinions of the
Government and of their medical
and Sanitary advisers.

I have &c

Secy.